



PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: CSI-2013

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Harry Macey

In re Application of:

Nguyen, et al.

Serial No. 09/686,004

Filing Date: October 10, 2000

Title: MINIMALLY INVASIVE VALVE
REPAIR PROCEDURE AND APPARATUS

Examiner: U. Ho

Group Art Unit: 3731

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

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MAY 13 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application, a copy of each of the documents listed on the attached Substitute Form 1449A. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- With the patent application filing.
- Within three months of the application filing date or before receipt of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
- A fee is required. A check in/including the amount of \$* is enclosed.

- A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below; accordingly, no fee is believed to be due.
- After receipt of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, a Petition requesting consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement, an authorization to charge our deposit account, and a Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) are provided below.

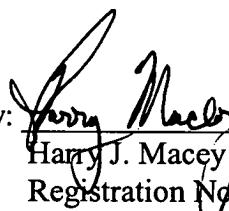
Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Substitute Form 1449A, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

This Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

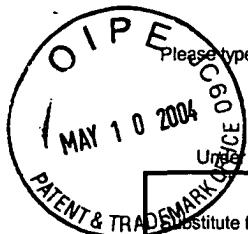
In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the U.S. Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-1947 referencing Attorney Docket No. CSI-2013. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 10, 2004

By: 
Harry J. Macey
Registration No. 32,818

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/686,004
				Filing Date	October 10, 2000
				First Named Inventor	John Nguyen
				Group Art Unit	3731
				Examiner Name	U. Ho
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	CSI-2013

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Documents		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
1.	5,961,539			Northrup III et al.	10/05/1999
2.	6,551,332			Nguyen et al.	04/22/2003
3.	6,607,541			Gardiner et al.	08/19/2003
4.	6,613,059			Schaller et al.	09/02/2003
5.	6,641,593			Schaller et al.	11/04/2003

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Documents		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Office ³	Number ⁴		

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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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